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Asad Islam

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EXAMINER

DANG, HUNG Q

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/798,824	Applicant(s) ISLAM ET AL.	
	Examiner Hung Q. Dang	Art Unit 2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 August 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3-41, 43, 44 and 47-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-41, 43, 44 and 47-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 08/29/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

On page 13, Applicant argues Wee does not disclose or suggest the feature of “when the same sequence ... $B_0B_1I_2P_3B_4P_5B_6B_7P_8I_9...$ is modified, the preceding frames $I_2P_3B_4$ are decoded along with $P_5B_6B_7P_8I_9...$.” In response, without admitting Wee does not disclose the feature, the Examiner respectfully submits that the arguments are irrelevant because this feature is not recited in the claims. Instead, the Examiner respectfully would like to point out that Wee does disclose the limitations of “modifying the bitstream in the compressed domain based on specified editing parameters for providing a modified bitstream indicative of edited video frames if the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame is the first characteristic, and wherein if the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame is the second characteristic, decoding said at least one video frame and at least one of said preceding video frames for providing a plurality of decoded video frames prior to said modifying” as follows.

Wee discloses the bitstream to include a sequence of I frames, P frames, and B frames. Thus, the frame characteristics include: whether a frame is encoded as an I frame (corresponding to the first characteristic), or whether a frame is encoded as a P frame, or whether a frame is encoded as a B frame (corresponding to the second characteristic). If it is an I frame, which corresponds to the first characteristic, Wee discloses the modification is performed in the compressed domain at column 12, line 36

- column 13, line 20. Specifically, at column 13, lines 5-20, Wee clearly teaches converting the I frame by simply manipulating directly the DCT coefficients without decoding the any frame. It is noted that DCT coefficients represent the frame data in compressed or frequency domain. Therefore, Wee is clearly teaching modifying the stream in the compressed domain in this context. Further, at column 11, lines 9-32, Wee disclose if the frame is identified as a P frame or a B frame (i.e. of second characteristic), then one or more preceding frames, which the P frame or B frame temporally depends on, are decoded along with that at least one video frame before the bitstream is modified to remove such dependencies. For example, in the case of the bitstream $B_1B_2I_3P_4B_5P_6B_7B_8P_9I_{10}$, if the frames $P_6B_7B_8P_9I_{10}$ were simply cut, the first three frames $P_6B_7B_8$ could no longer be accurately decoded because they would all depend upon the prior missing I_3 frame or P_4 frame. Therefore, $P_6B_7B_8$ must be decoded to the image domain then recorded in such a way that they no longer depend on the previous I_3 frame or P_4 . In order to decode $P_6B_7B_8$ successfully to image domain, the previous I_3 frame or P_4 must also be decoded to image domain.

These comments, therefore, also prove Applicant's arguments on page 14 incorrect and not persuasive.

Therefore, Wee clearly discloses the limitations of the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 3, 16-22, 26-32, and 51-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wee et al. (US Patent 6,104,441).

Regarding claim 3, Wee et al. disclose a method, comprising: determining, among a plurality of input video frames in a bitstream, at least one video frame for video editing (column 11, lines 9-32), wherein the input video frames comprise frame characteristics, the frame characteristics comprising at least a first characteristic and a second characteristic (column 11, lines 9-32; column 12, line 36 - column 13, line 20; also see "Response to Arguments" above), and wherein the input video frames comprise one or more preceding video frames preceding said at least one video frame (column 11, lines 9-32; column 8, lines 10-20); identifying the frame characteristic of said at least one input video frame (column 7, lines 50-53; column 11, lines 9-32); modifying the bitstream in the compressed domain based on specified editing parameters for providing a modified bitstream indicative of edited video frames if the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame is the first characteristic (column 12, line 36 – column 13, line 20; also see "Response to Arguments" above), and wherein if the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame is the second characteristic, decoding said at least one video frame and at least one of said preceding video frames for providing a plurality of decoded video frames prior to said modifying (column 11, lines 9-32; also see "Response to Arguments" above).

Regarding claim 16, Wee et al. disclose an apparatus (column 3, lines 36-38), comprising: a frame analyzer module, responsive to signals indicative of a plurality of input video frames in a bitstream, adapted for determining at least one video frame for video editing (column 11, lines 9-32), wherein the input video frames comprise frame characteristics, the frame characteristics comprise a first characteristic and a second characteristic (column 11, lines 9-32; column 12, line 36 - column 13, line 20; also see "Response to Arguments" above), and wherein the input video frames comprise one or more preceding video frames preceding said at least one input video frame (column 11, lines 9-32; column 8, lines 10-20), said frame analyzer module further adapted for identifying the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame (column 7, lines 50-53; column 11, lines 9-32); and a compressed domain processing module, responsive to signals indicative of the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame, for modifying the video frame data based on specified editing parameters for providing a modified bitstream indicative of edited video frames if the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame is the first characteristic (column 12, line 36 – column 13, line 20; also see "Response to Arguments" above); and a decoding module, adapted for decoding said at least one video frame and at least one of said preceding video frames for providing a plurality of decoded video frames prior to said modifying, if the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame is a second characteristic (column 11, lines 9-32; also see "Response to Arguments" above).

Regarding claim 17, Wee et al. also disclose a spatial domain processing module for modifying video frame data in one or more further input video frames in the bitstream in a spatial domain for providing further modified video data (column 11, lines 19-30).

Regarding claim 18, Wee et al. also disclose a combining module for combining at least a part of the further modified video data with at least a part of the modified bitstream (column 11, lines 19-30).

Regarding claim 19, Wee et al. also disclose a format composer module for converting the edited frame data into an edited media file (column 6, lines 52-58; Fig. 9; column 16, lines 1-46).

Regarding claim 20, Wee et al. also disclose the format composer module comprises a file format composer (Fig. 9; column 16, lines 1-46).

Regarding claim 21, Wee et al. also disclose the format composer module comprises a media format composer (Fig. 9; column 16, lines 1-46).

Regarding claim 22, Wee et al. also disclose the frame analyzer module is further adapted for identifying format information indicative of editing properties of the modified video data so as to convert the modified video data into the edited media file compatible to a media player (column 7, lines 50-53; column 6, lines 52-58; Fig. 9; column 16, lines 1-46).

Regarding claim 26, Wee et al. disclose an apparatus, comprising: a media encoder for encoding media data for providing encoded media data in a plurality of encoded video frames (column 10, lines 12-19), wherein the encoded video frames comprise frame characteristics, the frame characteristics comprising at least a first

characteristic and a second characteristic (column 11, lines 9-32; column 12, line 36 – column 13, line 20; column 7, lines 50-53); a media editing device, responsive to the encoded video frames, for providing edited data including one or more edited frames, the edited frames having at least one editing effect specified by one or more editing parameters (column 11, lines 9-32), and a media decoder, responsive to the edited data, for providing decoded media data, wherein the media editing device comprises: a video editor module, responsive to signals indicative of encoded video frames, adapted for determining at least one video frame for video editing (column 11, lines 9-32), and wherein the encoded video frames comprise one or more preceding video frames preceding said at least one video frame (column 11, lines 9-32), said video editor module further adapted for identifying the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame (column 7, lines 50-53; column 11, lines 9-32); a compressed domain processing module, responsive to signals indicative of the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame, for modifying the encoded frame data based on specified editing parameters for providing the edited data if the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame is the first characteristic (column 12, line 36 – column 13, line 20); and a further module, adapted for decoding said at least one video frame and at least one of said preceding video frames for providing a plurality of decoded video frames, the decoded video frames comprise a last decoded video frame, and encoding the last decoded video frame prior to said modifying if the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame is the second characteristic (column 11, lines 9-32).

Regarding claim 27, Wee et al. also disclose the media encoder has a connectivity mechanism and the media editing device has a further connectivity mechanism for allowing the media editing device to communicate with the media encoder in order to receive therefrom encoded media data in a wireless fashion (Fig. 3; column 6, lines 52-58).

Regarding claim 28, Wee et al. also disclose the media decoder has a connectivity mechanism and the media editing device has a further connectivity mechanism for allowing the media editing device to provide the edited data to the media decoder in a wireless fashion (Fig. 3; column 6, lines 52-58).

Regarding claim 29, Wee et al. also disclose the media encoder and the media editing device are integrated in an expanded encoding module (Fig. 9; column 15, line 52 – column 16, line 7).

Regarding claim 30, Wee et al. also disclose the media decoder has a connectivity mechanism and the expanded encoding module has a further connectivity mechanism for allowing the expanded encoding module to provide the edited data to the media decoder in a wireless fashion (Fig. 3; Fig. 9; column 6, lines 52-58).

Regarding claim 31, Wee et al. also disclose the media decoder and the media editing device are integrated in an expanded decoding module (Fig. 3; Fig. 9; column 15, line 52 – column 16, line 7).

Regarding claim 32, Wee et al. also disclose the media encoder has a connectivity mechanism and the expanded decoding module has a further connectivity

mechanism for allowing the media encoder to provide the edited data to the expanded decoding module in a wireless fashion (Fig. 3; Fig. 9; column 6, lines 52-58).

Regarding claim 51, Wee et al. also disclose said plurality of decoded video frames comprises a last decoded frame, said method further comprising: encoding the last decoded frame prior to said modifying (column 11, lines 9-32).

Claim 52 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 51 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4-11, 15, 35-41, 43-44, and 47-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wee et al. (US Patent 6,104,441) as applied to claims 3, 16-22, 26-32, and 51-52 above, and further in view of Naimpally et al. (US Patent 5,477,397).

Regarding claim 4, see the teachings of Wee et al. as discussed in claim 3 above. Further, Wee et al. also disclose the video data are coded with MPEG format (column 6, lines 15-24) and are coded with variable-length code (column 7, lines 28-37; column 17, lines 11-13), and said method further comprising: converting the MPEG encoded video data into a decoded format prior to said modification (column 11, lines 19-30). However, Wee et al. do not disclose said method further comprising: converting the VLC coded video data into a binary form prior to said modifying.

Nainpally et al. disclose a MPEG decoding process that converts the VLC coded video data into a binary form (column 5, lines 5-10).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the converting the VLC coded video data into a binary form disclosed by Nainpally et al. into the decoding process used in the method disclosed by Wee et al. to make it compatible with MPEG standard, which is an existing standard.

Regarding claim 5, Nainpally et al. also disclose processing the VLC coded video data in an inverse cosine transform operation (column 5, lines 10-15).

Regarding claim 6, Wee et al. also disclose modifying one or more further input video frames in the bitstream in a further domain different from the compressed domain based on the frame characteristics of said at least one further video frame for providing a further modified bitstream (column 11, lines 19-30).

Regarding claim 7, Wee et al. also disclose combining at least a part of the further modified bitstream with at least a part of the modified video bitstream (column 11, lines 19-30).

Regarding claim 8, Wee et al. also disclose said further domain comprises a spatial domain (column 11, lines 19-30).

Regarding claim 9, Wee et al. also disclose said further domain comprises a file format domain (column 11, lines 19-30 – decoded data must have a different file format than encoded data).

Regarding claim 10, Wee et al. also disclose the modified video bitstream comprises edited frame data (column 16, lines 41-45); and said method further comprising converting the edited frame data into an edited media file (column 6, lines 52-58; Fig. 9; column 16, lines 1-46).

Regarding claim 11, Wee et al. also disclose the edited frame data is converted based on format information indicative of editing properties of the edited frame data (column 7, lines 50-53; column 6, lines 52-58; Fig. 9; column 16, lines 1-46).

Regarding claim 15, Wee et al. also disclose said modifying is also based on the editing parameters according to a user's chosen editing reference (column 3, lines 51-57; column 6, lines 37-40).

Regarding claim 35, Wee et al. disclose an apparatus configured for editing media files in a bitstream, the bitstream comprising a video bitstream, wherein the video bitstream comprises a plurality of input video frames having video frame data (Fig. 3; column 3, line 34 – column 4, line 3), comprising: a video editing application module for specifying editing effects on the input video frames (column 3, line 49—column 4, line 3), the input video frames comprising at least one video frame for video editing and a plurality of preceding video frames preceding said at least one video frame (column 11, lines 9-32), wherein the input video frames comprise frame characteristics, the frame characteristics comprising a first characteristic and a second characteristic (column 7, lines 50-53; also see “Response to Arguments” above); a video editing device comprising: an editor module adapted for identifying the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame (column 7, lines 50-53); and a compressed domain processing

module, responsive to signals indicative of the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame, for modifying at least part of the video frame data based on frame and specified editing effects for providing modified video data if the frame characteristic is the first characteristic (column 12, line 36 – column 13, line 20); and a further module, adapted for decoding said at least one video frame and at least one of said preceding video frames for providing a plurality of decoded video frames, the decoded video frames comprising a last decoded video frame, said further module further adapted for encoding said last decoded video frame prior to said modifying if the frame characteristic of said at least one video frame is the second characteristic (column 11, lines 9-32; also see “Response to Arguments” above).

However, Wee et al. do not disclose the bitstream to comprise an audio bitstream.

Naimpally et al. disclose the bitstream to comprise an audio bitstream (column 7, lines 21-24).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the audio bitstream disclosed by Naimpally et al. into the bitstream disclosed by Wee et al. in order to add sounds to the video. The incorporated feature would make movie watching more lively.

Regarding claim 36, Wee et al. also disclose the video data are coded with MPEG format (column 6, lines 15-24) and are coded with variable-length code (column 7, lines 28-37; column 17, lines 11-13), and said method further comprising: converting the MPEG encoded video data into a decoded format prior to said modification (column

11, lines 19-30). However, Wee et al. do not disclose said method further comprising: converting the VLC coded video data into a binary form prior to said modifying.

Nainpally et al. disclose a MPEG decoding process that converts the VLC coded video data into a binary form (column 5, lines 5-10).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the converting the VLC coded video data into a binary form disclosed by Nainpally et al. into the decoding process used in the method disclosed by Wee et al. to make it compatible with MPEG standard, which is an existing standard.

Regarding claim 37, Wee et al. also disclose the video editing device further comprises: a spatial domain processing module for modifying video frame data in one or more further input video frame in a spatial domain for providing further modified video data (column 11, lines 19-30).

Regarding claim 38, Wee et al. also disclose the video editing device further comprises: a module for combining at least a part of the further modified video data with at least a part of the modified video data (column 11, lines 19-30).

Regarding claim 39, Wee et al. also disclose the video editing device further comprises: a format composer module, responsive to signals indicative of the modified video data, for converting the modified video data into an edited media file for use in a media player (Fig. 3; column 6, lines 52-58; Fig. 9; column 16, lines 1-46).

Regarding claim 40, Wee et al. also disclose a display screen for display video images based on modified video data (Fig. 3; column 6, lines 40-58).

Regarding claim 41, Wee et al. also disclose a mobile terminal (column 6, lines 52-58; Fig. 3).

Claim 43 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 3 above.

Claim 44 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 6 above.

Claim 47 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 7 above.

Claim 48 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 39 above.

Claim 49 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 1 above.

Claim 50 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 10 above.

Claims 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wee et al. (US Patent 6,104,441) and Naimpally et al. (US Patent 5,477,397) as applied to claims 3-11, 15-22, 26-32, 35-41, 43-44, and 47-52 above, and further in view of Abe (US Patent 6,618,491).

Regarding claim 12, see the teachings of Wee et al. and Naimpally et al. as discussed in claim 10 above. However, the proposed combination of Wee et al. and Naimpally et al. does not disclose the bitstream also comprises audio data separable from the video data in the input video frames, said method further comprising: combining the audio data with edited frame data prior to said converting.

Abe discloses a bitstream comprises audio data separable from the video data in the input video frames (column 3, lines 32-35). Abe further discloses combining the audio data with video frame (column 4, lines 58-64; column 7, lines 5-16).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the audio data separable form video data and combining

audio data with video frame as disclosed by Abe into the method disclosed by Wee et al. and Naimpally et al. prior the converting step so that to make the video data having audio associated with it. Video having audio is more entertaining to watch. Besides, it is also more informative.

Regarding claim 13, Abe also discloses modifying the audio data prior to said combining (column 4, lines 37-44).

Regarding claim 14, Abe also discloses providing timing information so as to maintain synchronization between the audio data and edited frame data in said combining (column 4, lines 44-51, 58-64; column 5, lines 1-4, 10-18).

Claims 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wee et al. (US Patent 6,104,441) as applied to claims 3, 16-22, 26-32, and 51-52 above, and further in view of Abe (US Patent 6,618,491).

Regarding claim 23, see the teachings of Wee et al. as discussed in claim 16 above. However, Wee et al. do not disclose the bitstream also comprises audio data, said device further comprising: a format parser module, for separating the audio from the video frame data in the input video frames, and an audio processing module for modifying the audio data for providing modified audio data, if so desired.

Abe discloses the bitstream comprises video and audio data (column 3, lines 32-35), said device further comprising: a format parser module, for separating the audio from the video frame data in the input video frames (column 3, lines 32-35), and an audio processing module adapted for modifying the audio data for providing modified audio data, if so desired (column 4, lines 37-44).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the bitstream comprising both video data and audio data, the format parser module, and the audio processing module disclosed by Abe into the method disclosed by Wee et al. so that to make the video data having audio associated with it. Video having audio is more entertaining to watch. Besides, it is also more informative.

Regarding claim 24, Abe also discloses a combination module for combining the modified video data and the modified audio data for providing combined signals indicative of combined data (column 4, lines 44-51, 58-64; column 5, lines 1-4, 10-18; column 7, lines 5-16).

Regarding claim 25, Wee et al. also disclose a format composer, responsive to the combined signals, for converting the combined data into an edited media file for use in a media player (column 6, lines 52-58; Fig. 9; column 16, lines 1-46).

Claims 33-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wee et al. (US Patent 6,104,441) as applied to claims 3, 16-22, 26-32, and 51-52 above, and further in view of Ikonen (US 2003/0005329).

Regarding claim 33, see the teachings of Wee et al. as discussed in claim 30 above. However, Wee et al. do not disclose each of the connectivity mechanism and the further connectivity mechanism comprises a bluetooth connectivity module.

Ikonen discloses a bluetooth connectivity mechanism (claim 9).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the bluetooth connectivity mechanism disclosed by

Ikonen into the media coding system disclosed by Wee et al. to have each of the connectivity mechanism and the further connectivity mechanism comprises a bluetooth connectivity module because bluetooth connections have lower power consumption.

Regarding claim 34, see the teachings of Wee et al. as discussed in claim 30 above. However, Wee et al. do not disclose each of the connectivity mechanism and the further connectivity mechanism comprises an infrared connectivity module.

Ikonen discloses an infrared connectivity module ([0019]; [0020]).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the infrared connectivity module disclosed by Ikonen into the media coding system disclosed by Wee et al. to have each of the connectivity mechanism and the further connectivity mechanism comprises an infrared connectivity module to provide the system with capability of being controlled by remote controllers.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung Q. Dang whose telephone number is (571)270-1116. The examiner can normally be reached on IFT.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, THAI Q. TRAN can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Hung Q Dang/
Examiner, Art Unit 2621

/Thai Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621